

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Page 19, last paragraph, continuing onto page 20:

Wire cutting actuator 24 is coupled to a wire cutting linkage coupler 70 (Figs. 2 and 4), which in turn contacts a wire cutting linkage 72 (Figs. 2, 14 and 15). When wire cutting actuator 24 is pulled toward handle 14 (Fig. 2), wire cutting actuator 24 pivots on its pivot pin 73 (Fig. 4) so as to drive wire cutting linkage coupler 70 proximally, against the force of biasing spring 69, and so as to cause wire cutting linkage 72 to move proximally, away from the distal end of suturing instrument 10. This action will in turn cause a cutting bar 104 (Fig. 14) to move proximally (Fig. 15) so as to effect wire cutting, as will hereinafter be discussed in further detail. When wire cutting actuator 24 is subsequently released, biasing spring 69 drives wire cutting linkage coupler 70 distally, so as to cause wire cutting linkage 72 to move distally. This action causes a the cutting bar 104 to move distally, so as to assume the position shown in Fig. 14. Wire cutting linkage 72 moves adjacent to, and independent of, jaw linkage 68 discussed above. The action of wire cutting linkage 72 at the distal end of the

91

- 3 -

device is discussed further below with reference to Figs. 14 and 15.

